[28th November 1928

Alleged renting of the electrician's quarters to the Government Press Party.

*758-F Q.—Dr. B. S. MALLAYYA : Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Government Press quarters purely intended for the electrician of the Government Press is rented for Rs. 5 per mensem to the Government Press Party, whereas the electrician was paying a rent of Rs. 12-8-0 per mensem ; and

(b) if so, why and under what authority ?

A.—(a) The building referred to was formerly required as quarters for the electrician who was paying a rent of Rs. 12-8-0 a month. The electrician asked permission to vacate the quarters and this was sanctioned. The building was then leased at Rs. 5 per mensem to the Government Press Party.

(b) Under the authority of Government, who considered this the most suitable use for the building, which was no longer required for the electrician, and that the rent was reasonable in the circumstances.

Dr. B. S. MALLAYYA :—" May I know what that part of the building will fetch now if it is let to the outsiders ? "

The hon. the PRESIDENT :—" That is asking for an opinion."

Dr. B. S. MALLAYYA :—" No, Sir. Government are put to a loss. I should like to know whether the Government realize that they have made a mistake in giving this to the Party when they can easily get Rs. 30 by letting it to outsiders."

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur :—" We were receiving Rs. 12-8-0 for it. Because it is a social club, the members of which are employees of the Government Press, the Government now let it for Rs. 5 per mensem "

Dr. B. S. MALLAYYA :—" Was the hon. Member entertained by this social club ?

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur :—" No, Sir."

The hon. the PRESIDENT :—" That is not a concern of the Local Government."

Alleged preference shown by the Superintendent, Government Press, in granting leave to members of the Government Press Party.

*759-A Q.—Dr. B. S. MALLAYYA : Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Superintendent of the Government Press granted casual leave for two days in continuation of the Easter holidays to more than 25 persons of the Government Press Party to go on a pleasure trip to Ootacamund along with Mariabagiam, the Publication Assistant, the President of the Party ;

(b) whether he refused to grant such leave to others who are not members of the Party even for one or two days, for illness, death and other unavoidable circumstances ; and

(c) if so, what those cases are with their respective reasons for refusing the leave since January 1928 ?